GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5982
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
ECOLOGICAL BALANCE BY CIL
DUKHA BHAGAT

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of efforts made by the Coal India Limited (CIL) to maintain ecological balance in the coalfields;

(b) its impact recorded on the environment;

(c) whether there is any shortcomings in the said balance;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): The details of efforts made by Coal India Limited (CIL) to maintain ecological balance in the coalfields are as under:-

i) An environment policy has been formulated for implementation across the company.

ii) Environmental Department has been created under a Senior Mining Engineer in the rank of Chief General Manager/ General Manager (Environment) in each subsidiary and CIL corporate office assisted by suitable engineers who have been selected/trained and authorised for taking up environmental activities.

iii) Environmental parameters are being monitored in the mines by reputed environmental laboratories regularly for air/water/noise and blasting vibration.

iv) Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited (CMPDIL) & Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) are equipped with Geographic Information System (GIS) & Global Positioning System (GPS) facilities. Few more subsidiaries have programme to procure the same.

v) Following measures have been adopted in the mines for environmental mitigation:-

a) Commissioning Dust Extractors in the opencast drills.

b) Installation of static, automatic & mobile water sprinklers for suppression of dust in the haul roads & coal transportation roads besides the Coal Handling Projects and sidings.

c) Black topping of coal transportation roads.

d) Covering conveyor belts.

e) Installation of oil and grease traps in the Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) workshops, mine discharge treatment plants in mines, sewage treatment plants in the mine colonies.

f) Reclamation of overburden dumps for safety & stability.

g) Plantation in the reclaimed areas, road sides, vacant lands, and around industrial units like workshops, washeries and colonies.

h) Preventive maintenance of machineries and changing worn out parts to prevent noise pollution.

b): Environmental quality is being maintained as per acceptable norms and regular consents are obtained for emission and

discharges by the State Pollution Control Boards without any violation.

Already eight opencast mines of Northern Coalfields Limited have obtained the certificate of ISO14001. Few more proposals are under preparation.

c): No, Sir. Concerned authorities are satisfied in general by the eco-friendly approach.

(d) & (e): Do not arise, in view of reply to part (c) above.